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TO: Alumnae, Parents and Friends of Hood College

FROM: Martha E. Church, President

World Events Touch the Hood Campus

As was the case throughout the nation, the Persian Gulf War dominated the thoughts and conversations of students, faculty, and staff at Hood as we began the spring semester. Faculty members have conducted informal "teach-ins" in Rosenstock Auditorium where a large-screen television, tuned to CNN, was set up. My official National Geographic map of the region—the same map that the Geographic has provided to the troops in the Gulf area— has been posted in the lobby of Alumnae Hall. Students, faculty, and staff who have a friend or loved one overseas have found some comfort in the caring concern that is evident campus wide.

The distressing situation in the Baltic States of the U.S.S.R. also has occupied our attention, as Professor of History Len Latkovski and a group of Hood and Gettysburg students left Lithuania for Latvia just hours before Soviet tanks rolled into the southern region. They also saw tanks in the streets of Riga, the capital of Latvia. Dr. Latkovski was interviewed by local, regional, and national news media both during his overseas visit and upon his return, commenting that he had been asked by his contacts in Latvia and Estonia to let the rest of the world know of the violence and bloodshed. He spoke at a public lecture on campus February 20, titled "The U.S.S.R: Crisis, Chaos...Civil War?"

Former Hood President Randle Elliott Has Died

We learned in December of the death of Hood's fourth president at his home in Durham, North Carolina. He had suffered from an extremely rare blood pressure disease for some time. Dr. Elliott will be remembered for his decade of dedicated service to Hood. His widow, Gwen, resides at 110 Legacy Lane, Durham, NC 27713. Dr. Elliott presided during years of significant physical growth for Hood College. During his tenure, Tatem Arts Center, Rosenstock Hall, Coblentz Memorial Hall, and the Thomas Annex to the Apple Library all were constructed.

Foreign Language Added to Core Requirements

The faculty voted to strengthen further the core curriculum in the School of Arts and Sciences by requiring that students demonstrate facility with a foreign language, completing two elementary-level foreign language courses.

Hood Cited for Excellence

In a report to the nation highly critical of all levels of education, the director of the National Endowment for the Humanities singled out a handful of colleges and universities as exemplary. In a section titled "Good Practices," Hood was cited for its "rigorous and coherent" core curriculum by NEH Director Lynn Cheney (who was awarded an honorary doctorate by Hood in 1987). These two facts are not connected!

And Hood was not ignored in the most recent rankings issued by *U.S. News and World Report*. The College was among the top 15 in its category based on the opinions of the presidents, academic deans, and admissions directors at the more than 170 northeastern comprehensive institutions. Unfortunately, this set of rankings did not get included in the newsmagazine's October 1990 education edition; it was, however, in the *U.S. News and World Report College Guide,* which appeared on the newsstands the same time the magazine came out. Many in higher education have criticized the rankings because each time they are published, the groupings of the institutions and the selection criteria are different. Hood, for example, was ranked number one among smaller comprehensive institutions east of the Mississippi in 1985. In the most recent poll, we were compared with all northeastern comprehensive institutions—many of them very much larger than we.

While I often join my colleagues in questioning the objectivity of these rankings, I cannot help but be pleased that Hood College has been on the list of top institutions in every survey the magazine has conducted, no matter with whom we have been compared and on what criteria!

Beneficial-Hodson Gift Helps to Fund Information Technology

Beneficial-Hodson Trust Chairman Finn Caspersen did not disappoint Hood when he presented the Trust's annual "holiday gift" on November 29. The check for $725,000 will be used to fund the information technology initiatives connected to our new library—participation in an electronic international library system, development of an on-campus computing network, and purchase of the considerable hardware and software that is required to make Hood College a model for small colleges nationwide. Perhaps the most exciting capability is imaging, which will allow those in the Hood network and library patrons to see, on the computer screen, virtually any printed page, complete with pictures as well as text. This means our students and faculty will have almost instant access to materials worldwide.

Progress on the new library construction is impressive. From my living room, I can view the four-story structure of steel and concrete block, soon to be covered with red brick. We already have begun making decisions about the interior!

Pool to be Renovated

Good news about the Hodson indoor pool in Gambrill Gymnasium: thanks to the persistence and expertise of Professor of Physical Education Karen Klisch and Vice President for Administration Joseph Pastore, we have developed a plan to renovate the indoor pool. In my last letter, I told you that we would need to replace this facility. I am pleased that we can get another ten years of use from this pool—although we know full well that a new, Olympic-sized pool must be built by the turn of the century.

Student Wins International Service Award

Beth Kelley '91 was one of six student leaders of Circle K, affiliated with the Kiwanis Club, to earn the Jay N. Emerson Award. Ms. Kelley served last year as Circle K lieutenant governor of the Potomac Division, which includes central Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. Under her leadership, the division's club memberships quadrupled in size. The Emerson award recognizes the six top lieutenant governors in the world.

Sharon Percy Rockefeller to be 1991 Commencement Speaker

As the president of WETA-TV in Washington, D.C., Sharon Percy Rockefeller has been a powerful advocate for public broadcasting—no surprise since she previously had served three terms as chair of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Her list of volunteer leadership accomplishments is impressive, including terms as co-chair of ERAmerica, as a member-at-large of the Democratic National Committee, and as a board member of organizations as diverse and influential as the National Women's Political Caucus and the International Council for the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. She is an excellent role model for our students, who will have the pleasure of hearing her speak at Commencement on May 18.

Dr. McKnight Delivers Beneficial-Hodson Lecture

An annual event to which we all look forward, the Beneficial-Hodson Lecture features one of the outstanding faculty members who has been awarded a Beneficial-Hodson fellowship leave to pursue her or his scholarly work. Gerald McKnight, Professor of History, has a well-deserved reputation on campus as one of Hood's best lecturers. His discussion of the FBI's investigation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Poor People's Campaign was compelling. His

research, based largely on documents the government had steadfastly refused for years to release, and then, under legal pressure, did release, provides chilling insight into the power the FBI exercised in the 1960s.

Dr. Noel Lester Embarks on European Concert Tour

Associate Professor of Music and accomplished concert pianist Noel Lester treated the Hood community in late February to a preview of the program he will play during his upcoming European tour. Dr. Lester will perform in Kiel and Hamburg, Germany, and in Paris and Strasbourg, France. The tour is supported by a grant from the Hood Board of Associates.

Students Present Centennial Grant Results

The recipients of the first Centennial Foundation grants, funded by the College to encourage and reward independent academic work and community service, reported on their accomplishments to two very impressed audiences. The competitively awarded grants of up to $2,000 supported both academic and community service projects. Hood's Vice Presidents for Academic Affairs and Student Life are working with faculty to select the award recipients for the coming academic year.

Alumnae Chair Centennial Committees

Plans for the Centennial celebration, beginning in September 1992 and concluding in September 1993, are being ably guided by three outstanding alumnae volunteers:

Lois S. Harrison '45, who also chairs the Board of Trustees, is Centennial celebration chair.

Elizabeth (Betsy) McCain McApline '51, chairs the committee for off-campus events and activities.

Cynthia Norwood Swanson '84, is chair of archives and historic preservation projects.

There are many other volunteers already involved in the Centennial planning, and many more will be needed!

Hood Receives $2 Million Gift from the Late Margery Griffith Alexander '31

Margery Griffith Alexander '31, a generous Hood supporter during her lifetime, established in her will a Charitable Lead Trust that is expected to bring approximately $2 million to the College's endowment. Her estate will be invested and, for 12 years, the income will be paid to Hood. After that, the principal and future income will go to Mrs. Alexander's heirs. A French major at Hood, Mrs. Alexander remained involved with her *alma mater*, as a member of the Board of

Associates and a charter member of the President's Roundtable. We all are grateful for her leadership and generosity.

Hood Attracts Speakers, Performers of National Stature

This has been a banner year for public lectures, beginning with the indomitable John Kenneth Galbraith in September, followed in October by Jorge Guillermo, spouse of HRH Princess Christina of the Netherlands. In November we heard Betty Edwards, author of *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain*, and in January we were honored to host the East Coast recital debut of mezzo soprano Deidra Palmour, who has been called "the Washington Opera's most exciting discovery of the 1989-90 season."

Jaime Escalante will be at Hood on April 10 to share his insights on education. He is the mathematics teacher whose story was dramatized in the excellent film, "Stand and Deliver." I am pleased that Hood is able to invite the community to these exciting events.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday Is Celebrated on Campus

The 61st birthday of the late civil rights leader was commemorated at Hood by a number of special events. On January 21, the national holiday honoring Dr. King, students shared a birthday cake at dinner. The film, "Legacy of a Dream," was shown the following day, prior to the play, "The Meeting," which depicted a fictional meeting between Dr. King and Malcolm X. Students were invited to participate in a speech contest with cash prizes for the three best efforts describing what Dr. King might say about life in the U.S. today. A colleague of Dr. King's, Dr. Calvin Morris, spoke about the civil rights movement and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

Alumnae Reunion Scheduled for May 30 - June 2

Building on the success of last year's "Alumnae College," Reunion Weekend 1991 will offer more opportunities to participate in academic seminars led by Hood faculty members. The weekend begins on Thursday afternoon, with a dessert reception that evening. There will be narrated carriage rides through Frederick during the weekend, faculty seminars on Friday afternoon, and a Town Hall meeting Friday evening. Saturday will feature the traditional luncheon, at which all classes come together, and class reunion dinners. Sunday's Strawberry Breakfast and a Chapel service conclude the festivities. All alums are invited. Look for details from the Alumnae Office.

Pergola Society Recognizes Those Who Include Hood in Estate Plans

We will soon issue a special invitation to alums and friends who have let the College know of their plans to make a gift to Hood in their wills. The Pergola Society will recognize these individuals with a certificate and an attractive pin. Hood has benefitted greatly from the planning and foresight of many strong supporters who left a special gift as part of their estates. You will be hearing more about the Pergola Society this spring.

Science Faculty Host Visiting Scholar from India

Dr. Nirmala Jeyaraj, Professor of Biology at Lady Doak College in Madurai, South India, spent a week on campus at the end of January, meeting with colleagues at Hood and visiting biomedical research laboratories at the Frederick Cancer Research Center. Lady Doak was one of the women's colleges I visited during my 1989 trip to that country.

Hood Student Featured in Television Public Service Announcement

Freshman Sharon Thomas shared her enthusiasm for Hood with hundreds of thousands of Baltimore-area television viewers over the holidays. She was featured in a public service announcement encouraging high school students to enter a "Share the Dream" essay contest, in which the winner earns a college scholarship. Ms. Thomas won in 1990 and, she told viewers, the scholarship she was awarded helped to make her dream of attending Hood College a reality!

Welcome Back to Bill Snyder, Hood's Newest Trustee

It was a pleasure to welcome William Snyder of Baltimore, Senior Vice President-Administration of Crown Central Petroleum Corporation, back to Hood's Board of Trustees. He served on Hood's Board from 1983 to 1985, stepping down when he was appointed by the Governor of Maryland to chair the State Board for Higher Education. His Hood connections are strong, as he is the husband of Ann Lewis Snyder '49 and the brother of Dorothy Snyder Lambdin '52 and Hattie Snyder Bingham '57.

Trustee Is Mentor to Other Women Achievers

Trustee Jacke McCurdy '56, Vice President of State and Industry Relations for Joseph E. Seagram and Sons, served as general chair for the YMCA of New York City's Academy of Women Achievers. Ms. McCurdy guided the selection of 123 New York women saluted by the YMCA for their achievement—a group which included former Hood Trustee Sharon A. Lambly. A full-page ad in *The*

New York Times pictured this very impressive group, along with recognition of the equally impressive general chair!

Hood Alumnae Association License Plates Available

Maryland alums can order a license plate that identifies them as a "Hood Alumna." The plates will display the letters HC followed by five digits and cost $12. For more information, or to order your plates, contact the Alumnae Office at (301) 663-3131, ext. 239.

Kelly Chapin, Hood Senior, Completes Trans-Atlantic Sailing Adventure

Six weeks at sea, complete with three hurricanes, concluded Hood senior Kelly Chapin's first semester, spent in a program conducted by the Sea Education Association. The environmental studies major took six weeks of classes about marine science and sailing techniques before boarding the 134-foot SEA sloop and sailing from Woods Hole, MA, to Lisbon, Portugal. She was one of 22 college students and 11 staff who served as the crew. Ms. Chapin has returned to Hood for a more conventional spring semester, with wonderful stories of adventure on the high seas to share with her classmates.

Tenure Granted

Assistant Professor of Social Work Carolyn Knight was granted tenure by the Board of Trustees at its fall meeting.

Barbara Hetrick Chairs National Academic Group

Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs Barbara Hetrick moved this January from vice-chair to chair of the American Council on Education's Council of Fellows. She was responsible for organizing a series of seminars and workshops for the group's annual meeting in San Francisco. Dr. Hetrick completed a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the American Conference of Academic Deans, having served as vice-chair, chair, and head of the nominating committee. On the local front, she has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Frederick County Advocates for the Homeless and to the Board of the Way Station in Frederick.

My Activities

I have been elected vice-chair of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, a two-year term I will complete in 1992. And at the gala Dana Foundation Awards Dinner in November, I celebrated the completion of my third year as chair of the higher education selection panel.

Although my broken ankle and torn ligaments have healed nicely, I chose a less rigorous activity than hiking during the holiday break, introducing myself to the golf course. I am still a novice, but have found golf an enjoyable and challenging pastime!

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